INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPURI

Internal Application No PCT/L 02/08630

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C 7 B30B9/32 B30E B30B9/30 B30B15/30 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B30B B23Q Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) PAJ, WPI Data, EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1,4,6 RIN) vol. 2002, no. 10. 10 October 2002 (2002-10-10) & JP 2002 178196 A (RICOH ELEMEX CORP), 25 June 2002 (2002-06-25) 2,3,5,7 Υ abstract; figures 1,4,6 US 5 553 534 A (SOAVI FABIO) 10 September 1996 (1996-09-10) 2,3,7 Y abstract; figures US 2002/062745 A1 (MATSUMOTO TAKASHI) 1,4,6 30 May 2002 (2002-05-30) Υ abstract; figures EV478067757145 EXPRESS MAIL NO. 2005 Fe6 MAILED Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" tater document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or hich is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the citation or other special reason (as specified) O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other such docu ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but *&" document member of the same patent family later than the priority date claimed Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 09/04/2003 26 March 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Belibel, C Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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